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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: Hiroshi NOMURA

Appl. No.

: 10/646,788

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Group Art Unit: 2851

Examiner: SMITH, Arthur

Confirmation No.: 1081

For

: LENS BARREL INCORPORATING THE ADVANCING/RETRACTING

MECHANISM

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment Randolph Building Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Official Action dated September 22, 2004, which set forth a shortened three-month statutory period for response to expire on December 22, 2004. Submitted with the present Response is a Request for Extension of Time of one month, thereby increasing the time for responding to the outstanding Office Action to January 24, 2005 (January 22 being a Saturday), pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.7. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the Official Action, in view of the herein-contained remarks.

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